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0039-6348-2SRD REISSUE

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

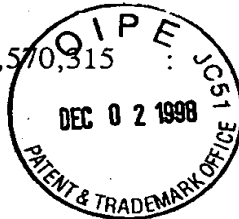
IN RE REISSUE OF U.S. PATENT 5,570,315

TOMOHARU TANAKA, ET AL.

SERIAL NO.: 09/134,897

FILED: AUGUST 17, 1998

FOR: MULTI-STATE EEPROM HAVING  
WRITE-VERIFY CONTROL CIRCUIT



: EXAMINER:

: GROUP

:

**REISSUE DECLARATION**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

We, Tomoharu Tanaka and Gertjan Hemink, declare that:

Tomoharu Tanaka is a citizen of Japan and Gertjan Hemink is a citizen of The Netherlands and we have respective residence and post office addresses stated below next to our respective names.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification, including the claims, of the above-identified reissue application.

We verily believe ourselves to be the original, first and sole inventors of the subject matter which is described and claimed in U.S. Letters Patent 5,570,315, granted <sup>10/29/1996</sup> ~~May 21, 1996~~, and for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled MULTI-STATE EEPROM HAVING WRITE-VERIFY CONTROL CIRCUIT, the specification of which was filed on Aug. 17, 1998 as reissue application number 09/134,897.

The entire title to said U.S. Letters Patent 5,570,315 is vested in **KABUSHIKI KAISHA TOSHIBA.**

We have previously claimed and still claim foreign filing priority under Section 119 of Title 35 of the United States Code, based upon Japanese Patent Application No. 5-234767, filed September 21, 1993 and Japanese Patent Application No. 5-311732, filed December 13, 1993, and have also previously identified and currently identify any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

We believe that the original U.S. Letters Patent 5,570,315 is partly inoperative by reason of the patentee claiming less than he had a right to claim in the issued U.S. Letters Patent 5,570,315.

In particular, we believe that the issued Claims 1-119 are unduly narrow and limiting and as such fail to define a scope of patent protection to which we believe ourselves entitled. Examples of such unduly narrow and limiting scope are the detailed recitation in claim 1 of the functionality of the plurality of programming control circuits, the detailed recitation in Claim 51 of the functionality of the plurality of data circuits, and the similar detailed limitations stated other issued claims of U.S. Patent 5,570,315, in comparison with the broader recitation of the functionality of the plurality of data latch circuits stated in Claims 121.

All errors being corrected in the present reissue application by means of the submission of new Claims 120-150 arose without any deceptive intent on our part or on the part of the assignee.

I appoint Eckhard H. Kuesters, Registration No. 28,870; Norman F. Oblon, reg. No. 24,618; Marvin J. Spivak, Reg. No. 24,913; C. Irvin McClelland, Reg. No. 21,124; Gregory J. Maier, Reg. No. 25,599; Arthur I. Neustadt, Reg. No. 24,854; Richard D. Kelly, Reg. No. 27,757; James D. Hamilton, Reg. No. 28,421; Robert t. Pous, Reg. No. 29,099; Charles L. Gholz, Reg. No. 26,395; Vincent J. Sunderdick, Reg. No. 29,004; William E. Beaumont, Reg. No. 30,996; Steven B. Kelber, Reg. No. 30,073; Robert f. Gnuse, Reg. No. 27,295; Jean-Paul Lavalleye, Reg. No. 31,451; Timothy R. Schwartz, Reg. No. 32,171; Stephen G. Baxter, Reg. No. 32,884; Martin M. Zoltic, Reg. No. 35,745; Robert W. Hahl, Reg. No. 33,893; and Richard L. Treanor, Reg. No. 36,379 our attorneys, with full powers of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; and we hereby request that all correspondence regarding this application be sent to the firm of OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. whose Post Office Address is

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1755 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Suite 400  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the

United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

NOV 12. 1998

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